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from time to time determine in the prosecution of researches as to the cause, prevention and cure of cancer, and, should the progress of science at any time make the prosecution of further research in regard to cancer unnecessary, then the income of said fund may be used as said trustees may from time to time determine in the prosecution of other researches in medicine and surgery, and in the science allied thereto, with a view of preventing and curing diseases and of alleviating human suffering.

Provided, however, that no part of the principal or income of this fund shall be at any time used for the erection of a building.

#### CHANGES AT HARVARD COLLEGE

At a meeting of the Board of Overseers of Harvard College, held in Boston, December 8, 1909, the president of the university communicated the following votes of the faculty of arts and sciences modifying the choice of electives:

1. That a standing committee of nine, of which the president shall be chairman, be appointed from the faculty, with power to associate with itself a large number of advisers for students.
2. That the committee prepare general rules for the choice of electives, to be approved by the faculty, based upon the principle that a student must take a considerable amount of work in some one field, and that the rest of his courses must be well distributed.
3. That at the end of his first year in college each student be required to present to his adviser a plan of study for the remainder of his college course; and that the plan must conform to the general principles laid down by the committee, unless the committee is satisfied that the student is earnest and has sufficient grounds for departing from those principles.
4. That a student's plan be subsequently changed only for a cause satisfactory to the committee.

And after debate thereon, the board unanimously approved said votes, and authorized the carrying out of the same.

The president of the university communicated orally to the board the contemplated establishment by the corporation of a freshman dormitory, and explained the purpose and scope of the same, and after debate thereon, the board unanimously voted to ap-

prove the establishment of the said dormitory as contemplated by the corporation.

#### EDUCATION AT THE BOSTON MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

MEMBERS of the American Association who are interested in education as well as in science will find much in the program of the Boston meeting to attract them. Because of the establishment of the section of education a number of educational interests are grouping themselves around the American Association, and this manifests itself in the program of the coming meeting by the fact that there are educational meetings scheduled for nearly every morning and afternoon of the session.

Section L itself will hold three sessions. The first of these on Tuesday afternoon will be devoted to the discussion of scientific problems in general education by members of the section. On Wednesday afternoon reports will be made by the General Education Board, the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Bureau of Education on their studies of the American college. At 4.30 on that day, Professor Dewey, the retiring vice-president, will deliver his address on "Science as a Method of Thinking and as Information in Education." On Thursday morning the committee on the Distribution of Students in Elective Courses will present its report.

The section will hold also two joint meetings; one on Tuesday morning, with the American Federation of the Teachers of the Mathematical and Natural Sciences, to which preliminary reports from several of the section committees of the International Commission on Teaching Mathematics will be presented and other topics of general interest to science teachers discussed. The other will be held on Wednesday morning with the Social Education Club of Boston and will be devoted to the discussion of the problem of social education.

Besides these meetings, a number of others have been arranged by the local associations of teachers and by other sections of the association. Section A will listen to a prelim-

inary report from the International Commission on the Teaching of Mathematics; and Section B plans to devote one session to a discussion of the teaching of physics. The Social Education Club, of Boston, plans to hold one evening meeting with a program that should be of particular interest. The Eastern Association of Physics Teachers, the Association of Mathematical Teachers in New England and the Association of Physics Teachers of Washington expect to hold meetings and render programs that will be valuable to those interested in educational matters.

The American Federation of Teachers of the Mathematical and Natural Sciences will hold its annual business meeting on Monday afternoon. The American Nature Study Society will meet on Saturday morning to discuss the problem of physical nature study. All of these meetings are open to the public.

#### THE AMERICAN PHYSIOLOGICAL SOCIETY

THE preliminary program of the twenty-second annual meeting to be held at the Harvard Medical School, Boston, December 28-30, is as follows:

##### *Tuesday, December 28*

9:00 A.M.—Reading of papers, followed by a business session after 12 o'clock.

2:30 P.M.—Meeting of Section K—Physiology and Experimental Medicine—American Association for the Advancement of Science. (Lecture Room, Building, of Harvard Medical School). Address of the retiring vice-president, W. H. Howell.

Discussion of the Ductless Glands.

R. H. Chittenden, General Chemical Aspect of Internal Secretion.

S. P. Beebe, Thyroid.

J. V. Cooke, Parathyroid.

Harvey Cushing, Hypophysis.

W. G. MacCallum, Pancreas.

Swale Vincent, Suprarenal.

8:30 P.M.—Joint smoker with the Association of American Anatomists and the American Society of Biological Chemists at the Hotel Westminster, Copley Square.

##### *Wednesday, December 29*

9:00 A.M.—Joint session of the American Society

of Biological Chemists and the American Physiological Society.

2:00 P.M.—Visit to the Carnegie Nutrition Laboratory (by invitation of Dr. F. G. Benedict).

3:00 P.M.—Physiological demonstrations (Harvard Physiological Laboratories).

##### *Thursday, December 30*

9:00 A.M.—Reading of papers, followed by a business session after 12 o'clock.

2:00 P.M.—Demonstrations.

#### THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NATURALISTS

THE American Society of Naturalists will meet at the Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass., on Wednesday, December 29, 1909.

The program will consist of original papers and demonstrations of studies on evolution. The following papers are promised and a few others will probably be added to the list:

E. M. East: "A Mendelian Interpretation of Variation that is apparently Continuous."

J. B. Watson: "The Problem of Determining Color Vision in Animals."

W. L. Tower: Title not yet received.

G. H. Shull: "The Inheritance of Sex in *Lycnis alba*."

Frank E. Lutz: "Experiments concerning the Reversion of Domesticated Races to the Wild Type."

W. J. Spillman: "Mendelian Phenomena Independent of de Vriesian Hypotheses."

J. Reighard: "Biological Meaning of Conspicuousness in Animals."

T. H. Montgomery: "Sexual Selection in Spiders."

D. H. MacDougal: "Origination of Parasitism in the Higher Plants."

Anne M. Lutz: "The Relation of Chromosome Number to Vegetative Characters in the *Urnothera*."

H. S. Jennings: "Experimental Evidence on the Effectiveness of Selection."

C. H. Eigenmann: "The Divergence and Convergence in Characins."

Ulric Dahlgren: "Origin of the Electric Tissues in Teleost Fishes."

W. E. Castle: "On the Nature of Mendelian Factors."

R. R. Gates: "The Material Basis of Mendelian Phenomena."

E. Brainard: "The Evolution of New Forms in *Viola* through Hybridism."

A. F. Shull: "The Artificial Production of the